Land occupied by VSP

1947. SHRI V. KISHORE CHANDRA S. DEO: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the present area occupied by Visakhapatnam Steel Plant;

(b) the land given to Visakhapatnam Steel Plant by Andhra Pradesh Government by land acquisition proceedings;

(c) whether there is a large extent of surplus land with VSP;

(d) the total number of employees in Visakhapatnam Steel Plant; and

(e) the expansion plans of VSP to operate at full capacity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI DILIP RAY): (a) The present area occupied by Visakhapatnam Steel Plant is 20,422 acres.

(b) The land given to Visakhapatnam Steel Plant by Andhra Pradesh Government by land acquisition proceedings is 11,598 acres.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Total number of employees on rolls of RINL/VSP as on 30.11.99 are 17,292.

(e) A comprehensive turnaround proposal of VSP which inter-alia includes the plan for expansion is presently under the consideration of the Government. No decision has yet been taken on this matter.

Loan taken by SAIL from SDF

1948. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken to write off loan taken by SAIL from SDF; and

(b) the steps taken to improve market realisation by SAIL and reduce its mounting losses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI DILIP RAY): (a) To check losses and improve its financial health, SAIL has drawn up a comprehensive financial and business restructuring plan which includes inter-alia waiver of loan from SDF. Government has not yet taken any decision in the matter.

(b) The steps taken by SAIL to improve market realisation are as follows:

(i) Orienting product-mix to suit market requirements.

(ii) Thrust on sales of special quality/value added products.

(iii) Value addition through conversion of Rerollables.

(iv) Adoption of segment-wise market strategies towards improvement in market share in segments offering higher realisation.

(v) Increase in despatches directly from the Plants to the customers.

Further to reduce losses, the restructuring plan drawn up by the SAIL includes inter-alia:

(a) A reduction in operational costs by reducing input costs, reducing consumption of raw materials and other inputs and by increasing operating efficiencies;

(b) Improvement in techno-economic parameters such as fuel and power consumption;

(c) Increased recovery for services/facilities;

(d) Right sizing manpower through a Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS);

(e) Assets restructuring;

(f) Disposal of idle assets; and

(g) Financial restructuring.

Restructuring and revival of HSCL

1949. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have worked out a detailed restructuring and revival of public sector Hindustan Steel works Construction Limited;

(b) if so, the details of modalities worked out for the revival of HSCL;